Involvement of ISI in bomb blasts

4852. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any evidence to prove that sprut in bomb blasts in India during the last few months is at the behest of Pakistan's agency ISI;

(b) if so, whether Government have protested to Pakistan about the nefarious activities of ISI in India and/or any other international forum;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) There is no let up in Pak ISI efforts in supporting, aiding and abetting terrorism in various parts of the country. However, available inputs do not indicate a spurt in bomb blasts in the country during the last few months.

(b) to (d) The Government have repeatedly called upon Pakistan to end its continued support and sponsorship of cross border infiltration and terrorism in India. Appropriate and effective steps have been taken to apprise the international community of Pakistan's continued sponsorship of cross border terrorism and infiltration in India. Many countries have called upon Pakistan to deliver on the promises made by President Musharraf to end cross border terrorism and infiltration into India.

Foreign militants

4853. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foreign militants have of late become proactive in Jammu & Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to control the terrorist activities in the State following the massacre of Kashmiri Pandits at Nadimarg?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) and (b) Pakistan sponsored cross-border terrorism in J&K State has all along been patronised by active involvement of foreign mercenaries. As an indication of the extent of their involvement, State Government has informed that in the infiltration bids foiled during the current year the ratio of foreign terrorists killed to local terrorists killed is 10:1.

Similarly, out of 370 terrorists killed in J&K during the current calender year up to April 24, 2003, 103 were foreign mercenaries.

(c) In addition to diplomatic initiatives at various levels and intensive pressure on terrorists in the hinterland, the Government conjointly with the State Government, has taken a series of steps to contain cross-border terrorism perpetrated by the Pro-Pak terrorist outfits/Pak ISI which includes strengthening of border management to check infiltration; pro-active action against terrorists; gearing up intelligence machinery; protective measures for remote and scattered populations and minorities; greater functional integration through an institutional framework of Operation Groups and Intelligence Groups of the UHQ at all levels; improved technology; weapons and equipments for security force and action as per law against over-ground supports of the terrorists.

The strategies, tactics and dynamic deployment to counter the terrorist are constantly reviewed, refined and monitored at various levels in the State and Central Government.

Government has also, pursuant to the decision taken in the High Level Meeting held on March 31, 2003, constituted a Special Group under the Chairmanship of Special Secretary (JKA) MHA to review existing macro strategies of the security forces and intelligence agencies in J & K and to suggest appropriate strategies to be followed to counter terrorism in J&K. The Special Group is to complete its work within 90 days.

Incidents of fighting near LoC

4854. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) A number of incidents of fighting occurred near the LoC in J&K; and

(b) the number of militants shot dead, the number of civilians and security personnel shot dead ?